

Hamlet Act One, Scene One

After reading the first 11 lines, answer the following questions:

1. What is going on in the scene?
2. Who might these people be?
3. Where are they?
4. What is the time of day?
5. What is the temperature?
6. Are they outside or inside?
7. What does Shakespeare accomplish with his first 11 lines?
8. What is the mood?
9. What do we know?
10. What questions are we left with?

After reading the whole scene, identify some aspects of the scene you don't know and can't gather from the text, and we will discuss this part together in the Hangout room, so please complete it on time and participate in our discussion.

1. How old are these people?
2. How tall?
3. Are there any physical gestures that might go with the lines?
4. Why a "quiet guard"? Does Barnardo leave at the end of the scene?
5. Are the characters happy or sad?
6. Are they hungry or thirsty?
7. Where do they live?
8. What kind of scene is this? Funny? Sad? Suspenseful? Dramatic? Solicit as many different responses as possible.

Remember that Shakespeare includes elements of many different styles, comedy, and tragedy.

Journal Topic:

There are many theatrical/film styles and genres: Select and discuss three styles that appeal to you the most from the list below. After completing your journal, you can send it to my e-mail for a homework check.

- Science fiction
- Opera
- Mystery
- Sit Com
- Soap Opera

- Silent Movies
- Western
- Action
- Musical
- Horror
- Comedy
- Adventure